

The English Department's Favourite Fiction Books

The Book Thief- By Marcus Zusak Narrated by Death, this book tells the story of a young girl in Nazi Germany hiding for safety in WW2.

Noughts and Crosses- By Malorie Blackman Sephy is a Cross- a member of the dark-skinned ruling classes. Callum is a Nought- a "colourless" member of the underclasses. The two have been friends, but that is as far as it can go.

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time - By Mark Haddon Christopher isn't like other teenagers. He finds it difficult to talk to other people, hates being touched and reacts badly to certain colours.

The Hobbit- By J.R.R. Tolkien Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who lives a quiet life, until it is upset by a visit from a wizard named Gandalf.

Wonder- By R.J Palacio Augie wants to be treated like every other ten year old. But whenever anyone looks at him, they treat him differently because of a terrible facial abnormality.

The Garbage King- By Elizabeth Laird Mamo is from a very poor family where everyone has died except for him and his sister, Tiggist. Mamo is kidnapped by a slave trader.

The Help- By Kathryn Stockett Enter a vanished and unjust world: Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. Where black maids raise white children, but aren't trusted not to steal the silver...

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry- By Mildred Taylor Set in Mississippi at the height of the American Depression, this is the story of a family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride and independence against the forces of a cruelly racist society.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas- By John Boyne Nine-year-old Bruno has a lot of things on his mind. Who is the 'Fury'? Why did he make them leave their nice home in Berlin to go to 'Out-With' ? And who are all the sad people in striped pyjamas on the other side of the fence?

Of Mice and Men- By John Steinbeck Drifters in search of work, George and his childlike friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except the clothes on their back - and a dream that one day they will have some land of their own.

Stone Cold- By Robert Swindells There's a serial killer targeting the young and homeless and Deb, an intrepid undercover journalist is determined to catch the killer.

Sensational Series

Harry Potter- By J.K. Rowling Harry Potter lives with his aunt and uncle because his parents died in a car crash- or so he has been told.

The Hunger Games- By Suzanne Collins One person from each district in the country is selected to fight to the death in a reality TV lottery. Katniss vows to win.

Divergent- By Veronica Roth Tris Prior lives in a futuristic world in which society is divided into five factions. Tris chooses Dauntless- however, this leads to a discovery within her.

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Northern Lights- By Philip Pullman 12-year-old Lyra Belacqua runs wild with her daemon Pantalaimon around Jordan College, Oxford, under the guardianship of the college's master. One day she sees something she shouldn't have.

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief- By Rick Riordan Percy is a twelve-year-old boy who has been expelled from every school he has ever attended. When his class go on a trip, his Maths teacher attacks him.

Alex Rider- By Anthony Horowitz Alex Rider thinks he is a normal school boy, until his uncle is killed. He discovers that his uncle was not what he seemed.

A Series of Unfortunate Events- By Lemony Snicket After the three young Baudelaire siblings are left orphaned by a fire in their mansion, they are carted off to live with their distant relative, Count Olaf.

The Spiderwick Chronicles- By Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black Of the three Grace Children, Jared has always been thought of as the troublemaker. When strange things happen he is blamed, but Jared is not behind it...

Maze Runner- By James Dashner Thomas, a teenager, arrives in a glade at the center of a giant labyrinth. Like the other youths dumped there before him, he has no memory of his previous life.

Witch and Wizard- By James Patterson and Gabrielle Charbonnet Set in a dystopian future, Whit and Wisty Allgood are arrested, imprisoned, and sentenced to execution during the uprising of a new totalitarian government, for unknowingly possessing outlawed magical abilities.

A Charles Dickens Selection- By Charles Dickens Stories from a number of Dickens' novels such as: Great Expectations, David Copperfield, Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Pickwick Papers, Our Mutual Friend.

Oliver Twist- By Charles Dickens The story centres on orphan Oliver Twist, born in a workhouse and sold into apprenticeship with an undertaker. After escaping, Twist travels to London, where he meets "The Artful

Sherlock Holmes Stories- By Arthur Conan Doyle Sherlock Holmes is a private detective who has keen powers of observation. He lives at 221b Baker Street in London. He notices things that others simply don't and then he draws accurate conclusions about what he sees.

Enjoyable Reads:

The Secret Garden- By Frances Hodgson Burnett A spellbinding story about Misselthwaite Manor and an unwanted lonely child who discovers a hidden and magical garden.

Z for Zachariah- By Robert O'Brien Ann Burden has survived a nuclear war by living in a valley free of radiation.

The Eagle of the Ninth- By Rosemary Sutcliffe Thousands of Roman Soldiers marched into the mist and were never seen again.

The Amber Spyglass- By Philip Pullman Will and Lyra have become separate but must find each other.

The Subtle Knife- By Philip Pullman Will has killed a man and is on the run in a parallel world.

Tug of War- By Catherine Forde When Molly is evacuated to the countryside after terrorist attacks, she finds herself with a wonderful foster mum on an idyllic farm.

Across the Barricades- By Joan Lingard Kevin and Sade live in Belfast, and the two of them being seen together isn't an option.

Minders- By Diana Hendry Scully is learning to be a wizard with supernatural powers like his parents.

The Weirdstone of Brisingamen- By Alan Garner Colin and Susan are saved from mysterious creatures by a wizard who has been searching for a lost magic stone for over 100 years.

The Diary of a Young Girl- By Anne Frank Anne Frank's diary, written when she was 13-15 and living in hiding above an Amsterdam warehouse during WW2.

Wolf- By Gillian Cross A haunting story of terrorism, impending doom, confusion and not really knowing your closest family members as well as you thought.

The Dark is Rising- By Susan Cooper Just prior to his 11th Birthday, Will discovers he's the last person left with the power of the Old Ones, and his mission is to guard the Light and drive out the Dark.

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase- By Joan Aiken In an alternative reality, King James III rules in 1832 and the country is plagued by wolves from the Channel Tunnel.

The Island at the End of Everything- By Kiran Millwood Hargrave Amihan, who lives on an island affected by an outbreak of disease, is forced to leave. She finds some unlikely allies in her quest to return home.

The Goldfish Boy- By Lisa Thompson Matthew finds it almost impossible to leave his room and venture into the outside world due to his OCD and constant worries.

A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E- By Malorie Blackman It's a normal evening for Elliot- until the police knock on the door and tell him his mum's in serious trouble!

A Monster Calls- By Patrick Ness Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. But tonight is different.

The Girl of Ink and Stars- By Kiran Millwood Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her cartographer father once mapped. When her friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search.

I Challenge You:

Never Odd or Even- By John Townsend Elliot is 12 and he thinks outside the box. Numbers are his thing and letters. So when the 'biggest mystery that struck the school' needs to be solved, Elliot is the one to call.

Among the Hidden- By Margaret Peterson Haddix Luke Gardner is a third child. His parents are only allowed to have two...

The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn- By Mark Twain Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer have made lots of money, but all Huck wants is to escape from his guardian.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy- By Douglas Adam Arthur's Friday doesn't start well when his house is demolished. The Earth is obliterated soon after, to make way for a bypass, and then he finds out his best friend is an alien.

The Hound of the Baskervilles- By Arthur Conan Doyle The Baskerville family is cursed by a ravenous supernatural dog intent on savaging them. Can Sherlock Holmes solve the mystery?

Lord of the Flies- By William Golding When a plane evacuating a group of schoolboys crashes on a remote island, the boys are left to fend for themselves.

The Woman in Black- By Susan Hill A chilling mystery about a woman in black who the villagers only talk about in terrifying true ghost stories.

Treasure Island- By R.L. Stevenson The tale of Jim Hawkins and his adventure on the ship Hispaniola sailing to find hidden treasure.

The Lord of the Rings- By J.R.R. Tolkien The Lord of the Rings is an entity named Sauron, who long ago lost the One Ring that contains much of his power.

The Abhorsen Trilogy- By Garth Nix The Abhorsen's house is besieged by an enemy, it is up to Lirael and Sameth to gather their powers and destroy the enemy.

Great Expectations- By Charles Dickens Pip is an orphan living on the Kent marshes with his abusive sister and her husband, the village blacksmith. Pip is chosen for a special future.

Animal Farm- By George Orwell The animals on Manor Farm rebel against the humans and win, but how will they work together?

To Kill A Mockingbird- By Harper Lee A black man is charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s.

Go Set a Watchman- By Harper Lee The sequel to To Kill a Mockingbird. Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch – ‘Scout’ – returns home from New York City to visit her ageing father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South.

Find Reading Tricky?

Holes- By Louis Sachar Stanley Yelnats’ family has been cursed for generations. Stanley is wrongly accused of stealing famous shoes and may break the curse.

The Ghost Box- By Catherine Fisher A young girl must unlock the secret to a mysterious box to protect herself from an unwanted visitor.

Desirable- By Frank Cottrell Boyce George, whose passion for Warhammer games has long made him a social outcast, is transformed by some past its sell by date after shave.

The Seeing Stone- By Kevin Crossley-Holland The stories of a young King Arthur are told in 100 short chapters

The Tulip Touch- By Anne Fine No-one wants anything to do with Tulip, who is avoided by children and teachers alike.

The Cherub Series- By Robert Muchamore is recruited into the CHERUB organization. Cherubs go on missions to deceive and trick adults for the intelligence purposes.

Martyn Pig- By Kevin Brooks The story of Martyn Pig, a fourteen-year-old who is faced with a number of difficult decisions after the death of his father.

Caraval- Stephanie Garber Caraval is Magic. Mystery. Adventure. And for Scarlett and her beloved sister Tella it represents freedom and an escape from their ruthless, abusive father.

Goodnight Mr Tom- By Michelle Magorian Young Willie Beech is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oakley.

Redwall- By Brian Jacques Redwall Abbey, tranquil home to a community of peace-loving mice is threatened by Cluny the Scourge - the evil-one-eyed rat warlord - and his

battle-hardened horde of predators.

David Walliams His writing is fun, engaging, and brilliantly bizarre: Gangsta Granny, The World's Worst Children, Bad Dad, The Boy in the Dress, Billionaire Boy, Mr Stink.

Jaqueline Wilson Funny, truthful, and adventurous; her books are truly wonderful: The Story of Tracy Beaker, Hetty Feather, The Suitcase Kid, The Lottie Project, Sapphire Battersea, The Illustrated Mum.

Michael Morpurgo Sad, exciting, and thoughtful; his books cover so many issues in many different places: Private Peaceful, War Horse, Butterfly Lion, Alone of a Wide Wild Sea, Born to Run, Kensuke's Kingdom.

Roald Dahl From finding advice on finding magic and thinking nice thoughts, to the importance of frequent whizzpopping, the writing of Roald Dahl is filled with wit, wisdom and fun: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, The BFG, The Witches, The Twits, Fantastic Mr Fox.